

Appl. No. 10/604,717
Amtd. dated July 15, 2005
Reply to Office action of May 18, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2 and 4-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), for reasons of record that can be found on pages 2-5 in the Office action identified above.

The examiner alleged that certain combinations of the cited prior art documents 5 render the claims obvious under 35 USC 103. The applicants submit that the claimed invention as recited in claim 1 is non-obvious over Moon et al. (2003/0086255A1) and Hillstrom (5,983,543). To more clearly explain this, the once-amended claim 1 of the instant application is repeated as follows.

“1. A direct-type backlight unit for flat panel liquid crystal display, comprising:
10 a plurality of lamps installed within a housing;
a reflection plate installed under the plurality of lamps in the housing; and
a metal diffusion film with a plurality of apertures thereon installed above the
plurality of lamps for diffusing light generated by the plurality of lamps.”

It is one kernel feature of the claimed invention that a single metal diffusion film 15 is disposed above a plurality of lamps for diffusing light of said lamps. The metal diffusion film has inherent advantages such as improved heat dissipation and enhanced light usage efficiency, which are described in the specification (See paragraph [0024] of the present application).

By contrast, Moon et al. discloses an ordinary backlight device with various lamp 20 holders to reduce the number of required lamp power lines and connectors. Moon et al. does not teach or suggest the use of a metal diffusion film. Hillstrom describes an outdoor menu display device. It is respectfully noted that the diffuser member 576 taught by Hillstrom is merely applied to a single point light source 572 (FIG. 19B and col. 11, lines 65-67). Hillstrom does not teach or suggest the use of a metal diffusion film and the metal 25 diffusion film is disposed above a plurality of lamps to diffuse light of the plural lamps. There is no suggestion or motivation to combine the backlight device having various lamp holders taught by Moon et al. with the diffuser member applied merely to single

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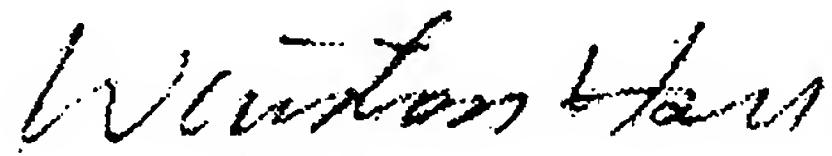
point light source taught by Hillstrom. In light of the above, the applicants believe that claim 1 is allowable. Reconsideration of claim 1 is therefore politely requested.

Mertz et al. (2002/0154474A1) is applied by the examiner, in combination with Moon et al. (2003/0086255A1) and Hillstrom (5,983,543), to reject claims 6-9 of the present application under 35 USC 103. Mertz et al. describes an ordinary heat transfer system arranged to dissipate heat generated from chips attached to a printed circuit board (paragraph [0079]). The heat sink 312 and the heat pipe 314 form a thermal path from the IC chips 310 to the top plate 170 of the top case (paragraph [0080], and FIGS. 5, 6 and 8). Mertz et al. does not teach or suggest metal heat-dissipating piece that is disposed at periphery of the diffusion film of the backlight device. As such, the applicants thus believe that claims 6-9 are allowable.

Reconsideration of this application and favorable action are solicited. As claims 2 and 4-15 are dependent from claim 1, they should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Sincerely yours,



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Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526

20 P.O. BOX 506, Merrifield, VA 22116, U.S.A.

Voice Mail: 302-729-1562

Facsimile: 806-498-6673

e-mail : winstonhsu@naipo.com

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